

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-3 and 8-10 without prejudice. The status of all claims is as follows:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) An optical pickup comprising:

a stem;

a substrate mounted on said stem;

a laser diode mounted on, and electrically insulated from, said substrate; and

a photodetector provided on said substrate for detecting return light from an

object to be irradiated;

said substrate being biased at a given voltage and having an insulating member opposed to said stem; and

said laser diode having a first electrode opposed to said substrate with a first insulating film, a conductor film, and a second insulating film being interposed between said first electrode and said substrate.

5. (Original) An optical pickup according to claim 4, wherein said substrate comprises an Si substrate, and each of said insulating member, said first insulating film, and said second insulating film comprises an SiO₂ film.

6. (Original) An optical pickup according to claim 4, wherein said conductor film and said stem are connected by a first wire.

7. (Original) An optical pickup according to claim 6, wherein said laser diode further has a second electrode, said first and second electrodes being connected to said stem by second and third wires, respectively.

8-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) an optical storage device capable of at least reading information stored in an optical storage medium, comprising:

a base;

a carriage movable along said optical storage medium;

a stem mounted on said base;

a substrate mounted on said stem;

a laser diode mounted on, and electrically insulated from, said substrate;

an objective lens mounted on said carriage for focusing a laser beam from said laser diode onto said optical storage medium; and

a photodetector provided on said substrate for detecting at least a regenerative signal from a reflected beam from said optical storage medium;

said substrate being biased at a given potential and having an insulating member opposed to said stem; and

said laser diode having a first electrode opposed to said substrate with a first insulating film, a conductor film, and a second insulating film being interposed between said first electrode and said substrate.

12. (Original) An optical storage device according to claim 11, wherein said substrate comprises an Si substrate, and each of said insulating member, said first insulating film, and said second insulating film comprises an SiO₂ film.

13. (Original) An optical storage device according to claim 11, wherein said conductor film and said stem are connected by a first wire.

14. (Original) An optical storage device according to claim 13, wherein said laser diode further has a second electrode, said first and second electrodes being connected to said stem by second and third wires, respectively.

15-28. (Cancelled)